

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of processing data relating to the performance of a business enterprise in creating value, comprising:

developing a data structure including assumed variables that have an influence on a value stream of the business enterprise, the assumed variables in said data structure being arranged in a multi-level hierarchy in which assumed variables positioned at a lower level in the hierarchy influence one or more assumed variables positioned at a higher level in the hierarchy;

determining a first outcome for the ~~financial~~ value stream of the business enterprise based upon the assumed variables;

authorizing a user to alter one or more of the assumed variables according to a level of the hierarchy in which the assumed variables are positioned; and

determining a second outcome for the value stream of the business enterprise taking into account the altered assumed variables.

Claim 2 (original): The method according to claim 1, wherein the first outcome includes a present financial value of the value stream.

Claim 3 (original): The method according to claim 1, wherein the first outcome includes a non-financial metric.

Claim 4 (original): The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

authorizing each of a plurality of users to alter the assumed variables according to a level of the hierarchy in which the assumed variables are positioned;

storing, for each altered assumed variable, an identification of the user who made the alteration; and

determining alternate outcomes for the value stream of the business enterprise taking into account selected aggregations of the altered assumed variables wherein the selected aggregations are formed according to the stored identifications.

Claim 5 (original): A method of processing data relating to the performance of a business enterprise in creating value, comprising:

developing a data structure including a plurality of assumed variables that have an influence on a value stream of the business enterprise, the data structure having a portion which defines a base case scenario for the business enterprise;

determining an outcome for the value stream of the business enterprise based upon the assumed variables of the base case scenario;

altering, by a plurality of users, selected ones of the plurality of assumed variables;

storing each altered assumed variable in the data structure in association with an identifier of the user who made the alteration, and maintaining the assumed variables of the base case scenario unchanged by the plurality of users;

aggregating selected ones of the altered assumed variables and selected ones of the assumed variables of the base case scenario in accordance with the stored identifiers to form one or more alternate scenarios; and

determining an outcome for the value stream of the business enterprise based upon each of the alternate scenarios.

Claim 6 (original): The method according to claim 5, wherein the assumed variables are arranged in a multi-level hierarchy in which assumed variables positioned at a lower level in the hierarchy influence one or more assumed variables positioned at a higher level in the hierarchy.

Claim 7 (original): The method according to claim 6, wherein said altering further comprises authorizing each of the users to alter the assumed variables according to a level of the hierarchy in which the assumed variables are positioned.

Claim 8 (original): The method according to claim 5, wherein the outcome of the base case scenario includes a present financial value of the value stream.

Claim 9 (original): The method according to claim 8, wherein the outcome of the base case scenario includes a non-financial metric.

Claim 10 (original): method of processing data relating to the performance of a business enterprise in creating value, comprising:

al developing a data structure including a plurality of assumed variables that have an influence on a value stream of the business enterprise, the data structure having a portion which defines a base case scenario for the business enterprise;

determining an outcome for the value stream of the business enterprise based upon the assumed variables of the base case scenario;

providing real-time feedback, by each of a plurality of users, on the value creation performance of the business enterprise;

storing the real-time feedback in the data structure in association with an identifier of the user who provided each portion of the feedback, and maintaining the assumed variables of the base case scenario unchanged by the plurality of users;

aggregating selected ones of the portions of the feedback and selected ones of the assumed variables of the base case scenario; and

determining an outcome for the value stream of the business enterprise based upon the selected ones of the portions of the feedback and the selected ones of the assumed variables of the base case scenario.

Claim 11 (original): The method according to claim 10, wherein the assumed variables are arranged in a multi-level hierarchy in which assumed variables positioned at a lower level in the hierarchy influence one or more assumed variables positioned at a higher level in the hierarchy.

Claim 12 (original): The method according to claim 10, wherein the outcome of the base case scenario includes a present financial value of the value stream.

Claim 13 (original): The method according to claim 10, wherein the outcome of the base case scenario includes a non-financial metric.

Claim 14 (original): A system for processing data relating to the performance of a business enterprise in creating value, comprising:

a memory device for storing a data structure including assumed variables that have an influence on a value stream of the business enterprise, the assumed variables in said data structure being arranged in a multi-level hierarchy in which assumed variables positioned at a lower level in the hierarchy influence one or more assumed variables positioned at a higher level in the hierarchy;

means for authorizing a user to alter one or more of the assumed variables according to a level of the hierarchy in which the assumed variables are positioned;

a filter for selecting certain ones of the assumed variables and for selecting certain ones of the altered assumed variables; and

a calculation engine for receiving the certain ones of the assumed variables and the certain ones of the altered assumed variables from the filter and for determining an outcome for the financial value stream of the business enterprise based upon the certain ones of the assumed variables and the certain ones of the altered assumed variables.

Claim 15 (original): The system according to claim 14, wherein the outcome includes a present financial value of the value stream.

Claim 16 (original): The system according to claim 14, wherein the outcome includes a non-financial metric.

Claim 17 (original): The system according to claim 14, further comprising:

means for authorizing each of a plurality of users to alter the assumed variables according to a level of the hierarchy in which the assumed variables are positioned, wherein

for each altered assumed variable, an identification of the user who made the alteration is stored in the data structure; and

means for determining alternate outcomes for the value stream of the business enterprise taking into account selected aggregations of the altered assumed variables wherein the selected aggregations are formed according to the stored identifications.

Claim 18 (original): A method of processing data relating to the performance of a business enterprise in creating value, comprising:

developing a data structure including a plurality of assumed variables that have an influence on a value stream of the business enterprise and at least one future or past event for each assumed variable that influences the corresponding assumed variable, the data structure having a portion which defines a base case scenario for the business enterprise;

determining an outcome for the value stream of the business enterprise based upon the assumed variables and events of the base case scenario;

altering, by a plurality of users, selected ones of the plurality of assumed variables and selected ones of the events;

storing each altered assumed variable and each altered event in the data structure in association with an identifier of the user who made the alteration, and maintaining the assumed variables and events of the base case scenario unchanged by the plurality of users;

aggregating selected ones of the altered assumed variables and events along with selected ones of the assumed variables and events of the base case scenario in accordance with the stored identifiers to form one or more alternate scenarios; and

determining an outcome for the value stream of the business enterprise based upon each of the alternate scenarios.

Claim 19 (original): The method according to claim 18, wherein the assumed variables are arranged in a multi-level hierarchy in which assumed variables positioned at a lower level in the hierarchy influence one or more assumed variables positioned at a higher level in the hierarchy.

Claim 20 (original): The method according to claim 19, wherein said altering further comprises authorizing each of the users to alter the assumed variables according to a level of the hierarchy in which the assumed variables are positioned.

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Claim 21 (original): The method according to claim 18, wherein the outcome of the base case scenario includes a present financial value of the value stream.

Claim 22 (original): The method according to claim 18, wherein the outcome of the base case scenario includes a non-financial metric.
